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■ **POLICE:** High school beat

Constable walks his old school halls

WAYNE CAMPBELL
Tribune Staff

PELHAM – Const. Neal Ridley never thought he'd be back in his old high school, at least not in law enforcement.

However, the Pelham resident now walks the halls of E.L. Crossley Secondary School and three Welland high schools as a school resource officer.

see **POLICE** | page 5

WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo
Niagara Regional Police school resource officer Const. Neal Ridley talks with E.L. Crossley students Sophie Butler, Robert Robinson, Allison Forrest and Morgan Elgie.

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■ **BUSINESS:** Expanded Christmas program possible

Pelham Business Association membership tops 100 mark

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

PELHAM – A surge over the past few months pushed the Pelham Business Association past the 100 membership mark.

Association president Tim McAvoy told the PBA annual meeting at Zest Restaurant it had reached a goal it set at its last annual meeting.

The association represents businesses from across Pelham and strives to spread out activities, he said.

"It's not just all about Ridgeville," quipped the financial and insurance service adviser who has a Ridgeville office.

An expanded Christmas in Pelham promotion could involve both Fonthill and Fenwick tying in the annual Santa Claus parade.

Ward 2 Coun. Gary Accursi, council's PBA representative, said the town will meet with the PBA this week to consider the idea.

It could lead to a winter festival.

He said town council has passed a sign bylaw affecting signs on private and business properties. It has a second for business signs on public property coming November.

"There are legal and insurance considerations involved," he explained.

The PBA wants sandwich signs used on downtown streets.

The town, Accursi said, is moving closer to an economic development committee. Finding members to meet the terms set by council has slowed the process.

Next Tuesday evening, at the Old Pelham Town Hall, the town consultants will hold a public meeting on a cultural master plan. He urged PBA members to attend.

"For the Niagara Region, culture is the fourth pillar of the economy," with the disappearance of high manufacturing.

Mayor Dave Augustyn similarly said culture included "fine restaurants like Zest" as well as the farmers market and Fonthill bandshell.

He urged PBA members to bring ideas to an open house on the 2013 budget. It's at 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 9 at the Pelham Municipal Building.

Melissa Wells of Ex Nihilo Website Designs, who handles the PBA website, www.pelhambusinessassociation.ca, explained improvements. They allows members with codes to change information and advertise member specials.

Program director Patti Fagan of Cafe on Main asked members to contact her with ideas for programs.

She suggested monthly networking meetings.

They could showcase businesses by sector to provide information for possible referrals.

"This is my business association as well as yours and it is only as good as our ability to support each other," she said.

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WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

Pelham Business Association selected its new executive at its annual general meeting at Zest Restaurant. From left are: president Tim McAvoy and directors Melissa Wells, Barb Christopher, Candy Ashbee, Deborah-Marie Forrester, Tom McIntyre, Fiona O'Hara, Patti Fagan, Debbie McIntyre, and Gary Accursi. Absent is Bryan Caporicci.

PBA PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2011-2012

- Christmas in Pelham program
- Portraits of Pelham business feature on website
- Website business listing upgrade
- Participation in creation of town's sign bylaw
- Discussion of East Fonthill expansion
- Presentation on use of social media
- Small business addresses by MPP and Ontario Progressive Conservative Leader Tim Hudak and Mayor Dave Augustyn
- Summerfest 2012 participation

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■ **RUBY:** Presentation on Oct. 19

Chamber announces 48 Ruby Award nominees

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

WELLAND – Welland-Pelham Chamber of Commerce announced 48 nominees in eight categories for its 2012 Ruby awards.

The annual celebration of business and volunteer excellence is highlighted by 18 nominations for youth citizen of the year from four local high schools

"It's the largest number we've ever had," said chamber executive director Dolores Fabiano during the announcement at the Seaway Mall.

Entertainer Kevin Jacobi, who served as master of ceremonies, was amazed by accomplishments of the teens. At that age, he said, he was lucky to make it to school.

The awards, named after a chamber founder, Ruby Emily Quaker, acknowledge contributions of business staff, volunteers and companies to the community.

Chamber president Verne Milot outlined Quaker's story as an early local entrepreneur.

The chamber began in 1889 as the Board of Trade

The awards ceremony itself will be at Lookout Point County Club on Friday Oct. 19.

Welland Coun. Jim Larouche said local businesses are the life blood of the community and thanked the chamber for recognizing them. The chamber has a long tradition of awards ceremonies but created a lighthearted version a dozen years ago.

Jacobi filled in for Mayor Dave Augustyn, and the comedian cancelled taxes for Pelham residents.

So far the awards program has 19 sponsors divided into diamond, gold, silver and bronze categories.

The Ruby awards include: employee of the year, community service, youth citizen, eco-action, new business, older business, businesses initiative, and business of the year.

See list of nominees on website www.wellandtribune.ca

wayne.campbell@sunmedia.ca

WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo
Welland-Pelham Chamber of Commerce president Verne Milot speaks to sponsors and nominees at the Seaway Mall Thursday. The chamber announced Ruby Awards nominees. The awards will be handed out Friday, Oct. 19, at Lookout Point Golf Course.

WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo
Comedian Kevin Jacobi reads off names of nominees for the 2012 Ruby Awards at the Seaway Mall Thursday. The awards will be presented on Friday, Oct. 19, at Lookout Point Golf Course.

WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo
Welland-Pelham Chamber of Commerce announced nominees for the 2012 Ruby Awards at the Seaway Mall Thursday. From left, are chamber president Verne Milot, Ruby committee chair Mel Groom, chamber executive director Dolores Fabiano, and Ruby Awards diamond sponsor Larry Bone, general manager of Seasons Retirement First Avenue.

RUBY AWARD NOMINEES

Employee of the year
Reana Weaver of Boston Pizza, Cheryl Harris of Dell Pharmacy Lewis and Krall, Francesca Berardi of Lookout Point County Club

Mary Anne Christoff Community Service Award
Vic Kerschl, Mary Dolan, Jodi McIntosh, Sue Guarasci, Justin Marr, Jeff Ward, Bobbi Laroque.

Youth Citizen of the Year Award
Samantha Janjac, Elizabeth Holmes, Cole Fast, Sarah Alakas, Carson Welychka, and Tara Lundy of Centennial Secondary School; Tina Nori and Dalton Steele of E.L. Crossley Secondary School; Justin Gauthier, Ester Eruysal and Emilie Simoneau of Ecole Secondaire Jean Vanier; Sarah Lukaszczyk, Francesca Bellantino, Lisa Campion, Liz Russell, Melissa Della Smirra, Breton Lalama and Gregory Foran of Notre Dame College School.

Climate Action Niagara – Eco Action Award of Excellence
SOS Cleaning Solutions, City of Welland/Walker Bros. Industries, Trees Unlimited, ECO Board.

Venture Niagara Award
Leah Ugulini of Healthy Smiles Dental Hygiene Clinic, Maureen Knabenschuh of Tranquil Touch Wellness Spa, Mireille Johnson of From House to Home, Laurie-Ann Whitnall of Thermography Clinic Niagara and Chelsey Cook and Jenna Bissonnette of Designer Delights.

RBC Financial Group Business Award
Style Commission Ladies Boutique, Modern Vision MMA, Luchetta Homes, Zest Restaurant.

RBC Financial Group Business Initiative Award
Hank Nauta of Nauta Home Designs, Mike Belcastro of Seaway Mall/Dorel Holdings, Rudi Kroeker of Whiting Equipment Canada.

Business of the Year Award
Whiting Equipment Canada, Casa Vostra, Taylor Chiropractic, Job Gym, Slavi's Machining Services, TMCA Financial Services, Studio Twenty, BHI, Convergys

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■perspective

Financial freedom through saving

So you've been irresponsible with money, you haven't saved properly, you've lived well above your means because you couldn't let the Joneses outdo you and you think that somehow is going to all work itself out.

Think again.

The world is travelling at breakneck speed and the financial bubble you've created is about to burst, and it's going to be very messy.

While Canada's unemployment rate held steady at about 7.3% in August, down from a 36-year historical average of 8.48%, two facts should be sounding alarm bells from coast to coast: The rise in employment in August by 34,000 jobs consisted of mostly part-time jobs; and year over year there are now 97,000 more women aged 55 and older working.

Perhaps the employment landscape isn't as rosy as the statistics would suggest, at least with respect to well-paying, full-time jobs, and older Canadians — those who should have been looking forward to retirement — are now having to work longer to make ends meet.

Couple this with a report indicating Canadians have a blase approach to debt and we're in for a very bumpy ride.

A recent poll by Harris/Decima shows an overwhelming majority of respondents — 92% — would consider borrowing money to pay for an unexpected need.

This revelation comes as the Canadian debt-to-income ratio sits at 152%.

While it may be too late for many 40- and 50-somethings to reverse their debt-financing approach to life in time for retirement (or what they thought would be retirement), it is not too late for their children.

Schools and parents share an obligation to teach financial planning.

Even a young person delivering the newspaper can dramatically improve his or her financial future by investing and investing early.

We've been led to believe the secret to happiness is financial freedom, the type of financial freedom that only comes with a "good job."

In fact, financial freedom comes from a smart financial plan, regardless — for the most part — of income.

Those who are waiting to win the lottery are going to find themselves losers.

— John Chambers

comment

Chavez laying his swan song?

JUAN BARRETO AFP

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, left, waves to supporters during a campaign rally in Sabaneta, Barinas state on Oct. 1, 2012. The leftist leader, in power for almost 14 years, is vying for a fourth term in office that would extend his presidency by another six years, but opposition candidate Henrique Capriles hopes to pull a major upset on Oct. 7.

Gwynne Dyer
AROUND THE WORLD

It is imaginable — not certain, but certainly possible — that Hugo Chavez, Venezuela's strongman ruler since 1998, will lose the presidential election on Oct. 7.

The most recent opinion polls showed that his challenger, Henrique Capriles, has closed the gap between them to only 5% or less of the popular vote. If Chavez loses, would he actually hand over power peacefully?

He says he would, of course — but he also says that it's an irrelevant question, since he will surely win. "It is written," he tells his supporters reassuringly. But it is not. Chavez really could lose this time, for 30 different opposition parties, ranging from the centre-left to the far right, have finally got together and chosen a single candidate for the presidency. Moreover, Capriles is no Mitt Romney: he knows that the votes of the poor matter.

In previous elections, the Venezuelan opposition railed against Chavez's "socialism" and Marxism, and lost. Capriles, by contrast, promises to retain most of Chavez's social welfare policies, which have poured almost $300 billion over the last dozen years into programs to improve literacy, extend high school education, improve health care, build housing for the homeless and subsidise household purchases from groceries to appliances.

Capriles can make those promises because, like Chavez, he can pay for them out of the country's huge oil revenues. He *has* to make them, because poorer Venezuelans — and most Venezuelans are poor — won't vote for a candidate who would end all that. But Capriles says he will spend that money more effectively, with less corruption, and a lot of people believe him. It would not be hard to be more efficient than Chavez's ramshackle administration.

Capriles also has the advantage of being 18 years younger and a lot fitter than the incumbent, who has been fighting cancer for the past 15 months. Chavez says it is cured now, but physically he is clearly not the man he was.

Some of his own supporters suspect that he is not long for this world — and while they still love Chavez himself, they neither love nor trust the people around him, who might seize power when he was gone.

Moreover, though Chavez's rule has benefited the poor in many ways, they are still poor. Venezuela's economy has grown far more slowly than those of its big neighbours, Brazil and Colombia, even though it has enjoyed the advantages of big oil exports and a tenfold rise in the world oil price.

Indeed, almost all the growth in Venezuela's economy since Chavez took power is due to higher oil prices; most other parts of the economy have shrunk. And while the oil revenues have been big enough — $980 billion during Chavez's presidency — to sustain the subsidies at their current level, they will never be enough to transform the entire economy.

You can work it out on the back of an envelope. There are almost 30 million Venezuelans. Even if all of that $980 billion had been shared out among them during Chavez's 12 years in power, they would only have got about $3,000 per person per year. Since the oil revenue also had to pay for everything from defence to road construction, the real number was more like $1,000 per person per year.

That's nice to have, but it's not going to transform lives. In fact, many people now feel that they are sliding backward again, for inflation has been about 1,000% since 1998, 10 times worse than in Venezuela's neighbours. And the shelves in the government-subsidised food shops are bare most of the time.

It's like the old Soviet Union: when a shipment of some basic commodity finally arrives, it is all snapped up instantly, and then there is nothing until the next delivery. Nationalization and central planning didn't do the old Communist states of Europe any good, and they haven't worked in Venezuela either. Something radical must be done to get the real, non-oil economy growing at a decent rate.

So even Chavez loyalists can be tempted by a politician who promises to keep the subsidies, but to scrap the antique Marxist dogmatism that cripples the economy. Henrique Capriles is exactly that politician, and therefore he really might win the election. What then?

What would probably happen is a grudging but peaceful hand-over of power to the newly elected President Capriles. Chavez has not been reluctant to exploit the government's near-monopoly of the broadcast media and his rhetoric is often vicious — he has called Capriles a "pig" and a "fascist" — but unlike the former Communist states of Europe, he has always held real elections that he could actually lose.

If he loses this one, he still knows that the welfare state he began to build will survive his departure: it is now part of the country's political furniture. He will be conscious that his health might not be good enough to sustain him through a long post-election crisis. And for all his bluff and bluster about defending the "Bolivarian revolution," he may actually respect a democratic vote that goes against him.

Whether his colleagues and cronies would feel the same way is another question, but they could hardly reject an outcome that Chavez himself accepted. This thing could still end well.

■ POLICE

Liaison officers get to know students

FROM PAGE 1

Crossley – along with Eastdale, Centennial, and Notre Dame College School – receives regular visits each week.

The three-year-old program puts resource officers into schools to build relationships. It operated first in Niagara Falls and then St. Catharines.

Today seven officers serve in all Niagara Catholic and Niagara District high schools.

"We had liaison officers before," said Ridley about a nine-year-old approach.

"But it wasn't consistent. Someone different would show up each time depending on shifts."

Now he works full time on school schedules dealing with criminal and youth offender reports.

He doesn't enforce laws as much as explain them to students, staff and administrators.

"It's about building rapport," he said.

He shows the uniform, passes out his card and listens.

"It's about talking to students about decisions that can affect the rest of their lives," he said. "A threat made on Facebook never goes away."

He gets to know students, gives them full access to his cellphone, e-mail and text messenger.

"It's difficult for youth," he said.

"Three months in their lives is like a year to an adult. It can be very traumatic. You want to sit down with them and listen to them."

Ridley said when something happens you have to assure them "that it's not that bad but here's what you need to do to change their attitude and the situation."

The school resource officer introduced himself to a group of students in the cafeteria just before he helped to direct traffic during the school's run for cancer.

He outlined what he was doing there. He gave an example of how the law works, if an ex-boyfriend becomes too persistent.

For the past two years, Ridley worked on the school resource pilot project in St. Catharines high schools.

There is little difference from school to school, he said

"Alchohol, drugs, and threats are in every high school."

Technology has changed since he graduated from Crossley in 1995.

"When we heard by word of mouth of a party in, say Wainfleet, 100 Crossley students would show up," he said.

"Now, with Facebook, texting and cellephones, everyone in Welland and Pelham will know about it."

The students in all the schools "are intertwined."

Ridley wants to show students and staff "police are not bad people, we're here to help."

The approach does pay off.

"It is very rewarding." He gets feedback from young people who have changed their lives.

wayne.campbell@sunmedia.ca

THERE'S NO PROBLEM

Crossley principal Ed Goerzen has some explaining to do.

A police car is regularly parked in front of the school on Regional Rd. 20.

"Some parents are concerned," he said especially when a police officer came to the first school dance of the year.

In this case, Goerzen said, he was happy to have Const. Neal Ridley in the school and at events.

"He is establishing a relationship with us and with the students."

Working with the police in the past has been inconsistent, the principal said.

It makes a difference to have the same person visit the school a couple of times a week "to help kids work through issues."

■ LETTER: Reader shares thoughts

Neighbours forgotten in health care shuffle

The Pelham mayor's remarks supporting a new hospital, show how self-centred a person representing a town can be, especially when one of our neighbours in Port Colborne and Fort Erie are forgotten in the shuffle of patient care services.

Ontario is drowning in debt, yet you, Mr. Mayor, vote against a tax freeze. You also believe you speak on behalf of the people of Pelham – think again

Please make use of our present hospitals, operate them as we've done in the past, leave discussions in the minds of the capable staff of these facilities and we'll be in fine shape.

Scrap the NHS, LHIN and most of all the McGuinty government.

Bob Reeves
RR 5 Welland

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■ **GARDEN:** Communities in Bloom seeks members

Top gardens in Pelham receive honours

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

PELHAM — Pelham Communities in Bloom handed out awards, thanked volunteers and put out a plea for help last week.

In an appreciate ceremony at the Pelham Public Library, Bill King praised the recipients of the 2012 Trillium Awards.

The committee honored those who made a special effort to improve their property and assisted in the annual garden tour.

He also promoted a three-day community participation event for businesses, students and residents on Oct. 18, 19, 20.

Award winners received plaques, trillium lawn signs and hardy thanks.

Mayor Dave Augustyn said they showed pride in their community and were being honored by their peers and garden enthusiasts.

King said Communities in Bloom needs more hands on its committee to nurture the program. It's down to four at the moment.

The committee runs the Trillium Awards program, holds two cleanup events a year to foster community participation and for 11 years has run an annual garden tour.

From funds raised it has financed community heritage signs and a clock in downtown Fonthill.

King said participation in Communities in Bloom program fosters civic pride.

Since 2000, it has improved the town by celebrating residential, commercial and institutional gardens.

"As a member, you learn a lot," he said.

"I'm just an average gardener but when I had my place open for the garden tour so many people had great suggestions."

He also enjoys sharing his knowledge with other gardeners.

To join the committee contact community services coordinator Katie Thorpe at Town Hall, 905-892-2607 ex 341.

This year's Trillium Award judges were Karin Vermeer of Vermeer's Greenhouses and Deborah Bastien from Pelham parks and recreation department.

Greta and Peter Hildebrand, who won the large residential category for their garden at 152 Merritt Rd., said it was an eight year project.

Pamela Young, who won the best balcony category at 44 Pelham Town Square, called her balcony designed for tranquility "with potted cedar trees and pretty flowers."

She said she felt humble "because there are many better balconies than mine."

Dr. Ivan Bos of Balfour Animal Clinic said he was grateful for the way the town has welcomed his new business. He won most improve commercial property.

wayne.campbell@sunmedia.ca

Bill King of the Pelham Communities in Bloom Committee points to three upcoming community participation days on Oct.18 to 20. Corporate Challenge Day is for businesses, Student Participation Day for schools and Community Clean-Up Day for everyone.

WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

2012 TRILLIUM AWARD WINNERS

■ **Residential Small:**

First Place – Mark Palsco, 759 Canboro Rd., Fenwick

Second Place – Jackie and Henry Vanderveen, 27 Martha Court

Honorable Mention – Jackie and Herman Heikoop, 114 Welland Rd.

■ **Residential Large:**

First Place – Peter and Greta Hidebrand, 153 Merritt Rd. RR#2

Second Place – Betty and James Fowler, 656 Memorial Dr., Fenwick

■ **Residential Small Professionally Landscaped:**

First Place – Lea Jensen, 11 Martha Court, Fenwick

Second Place – Trevor and Joely Capra, 1607 Lookout Street

Honorable Mention Mr Haydn and Mrs Beverly Davis, 12 Shorthill Place

■ **Residential Large Professionally Landscaped:**

First Place – Leonard Pupo, 10 Pickwick Pl., Fonthill

■ **Commercial Property**

First Place – Pedlar Funeral Home, 1293 Pelham St., Fonthill

Second Place – J & J Floral Expressions, 1428 Pelham Street, Fonthill

Honorable Mention – Lazy Loon Restaurant, 155 Hwy 20., Fonthill

■ **Multiple Residential**

First Place – Town Square Manor, 55 Pelham Town Square

Second Place – 42 Concord St

Honorable Mention – Chris Marvin, 1519 Pelham Street Unit 2

■ **Best Balcony**

First Place – Pamela Young, 44 Pelham Town Square

■ **Schools, Churches and Institutions**

First Place – Jehovah Witness Kingdom Hall, 1369 Rice Rd., Fonthill

■ **Most Improved Residential or Commercial**

First Place – Balfour Animal Hospital, 701 Canboro Rd

Second Place – Storm Hair Group, 21 Hwy. 20

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■ **ART:** David Chapman exhibition at Keith's Restaurant

Weather produces dramatic photos

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

PELHAM — David Chapman isn't a storm chaser but the fine art photographer loves dramatic weather.

He watches online radar to time his outside work to most productive moments.

"I know when the sun rises and sets each day," he said of stunning times for outdoor photography.

"A cold front can bring in the best."

For the next four months, Chapman will display his work at Keith's Restaurant in Fonthill. Keith's is at Regional Rd. 20 and Pelham St.

Show co-ordinator Patricia Crick said the restaurant usually has two-month exhibits but Chapman's collection is quite extensive. His photographs, printed on canvas, can be changed during the exhibit's run.

"This display has been up for about a week and we are getting good reactions to it," Crick said.

Chapman, of Beamsville, has taken more than 10,000 photos over a dozen years. He sells most of his prints through his website, www.naturebirdsandweather.com. He draws attention with shows such as this one at Keith's.

The son of a painter and grandson of a photographer, Chapman had no interest in art as a teenager. But while off school recovering from severe pneumonia, his father gave him a camera. Soon he was looking for stunning weather shots, often with his father at his side.

He loves extremes — the coldest winter's day with a -50°C wind chill and warmest summer afternoon at 51°C with the humidex. That, he said, is when air works its magic.

When he's not shooting weather, he's snapping shots of birds and landscapes. Both items are in his Keith's exhibition.

wayne.campbell@sunmedia.ca

WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

ABOVE: Fine art photographer David Chapman stands beside his photo Frosty Beams, catching the effect of looking through a frosty mist.

WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

Chapman stands beside his photo of Algonquin Park rapids.

Cleanse For Your Good Health

With today's fast pace, it's easy to overlook our health. Most of us start out with vibrant health, but by the age of 30 or so, we begin to develop 'minor' irritations. These 'small' health problems often become more serious, causing our health to fall into decline.

A large part of the problem is because we live in a toxic world. "Toxins are entering our bodies in record amounts through our food, air, and water," states Dr. Brenda Watson, a naturopath and cleansing and detoxification specialist.

"The quantity of toxic materials entering our bodies is overwhelming. More alarming is the number of people aged 25 – 40 years old who are developing serious health problems." says Dr. Watson.

Our bodies cannot keep up with the amount of toxins we ingest daily. It is causing us to 'breakdown'.

The first step to improving your health is to cleanse and detoxify. Cleansing is no longer optional - it is an absolute necessity for optimum health and to help reduce the risk and frequency of chronic and degenerative diseases.

Detoxification is your body's natural way to neutralize and eliminate toxins from your cells, organs and blood. Cleansing is the action of helping your body to detoxify and eliminate the harmful, unhealthy and disease-causing build-up of toxins. One of the best ways to get healthy is by using an herbal cleansing program.

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Author to discuss bullying

NIAGARA – Imagine what it must be like to be the parent of a bullied child and feeling just helpless.

Imagine the hours that might be spent seeking out resources in the school or in the community to help a traumatized child recover from repeated incidents of bullying.

How can concerned parents ensure their child will be safe at school, maintain a balanced home life,and navigate the system to secure timely and ap propriate support services for their child?

Laurie Flasko's daughter, Amanda was bullied through her final year of elementary school and into high school. The bullying was so severe that Amanda became ill, suicidal, and developed post-traumatic stress disorder. *Bullying is NOT a Game* is a newly released book and resource to assist parents as they navigate through their co munity trying to relieve and resolve their personal experience with bullying situations.

Flasko will share her positive and uplifting story of personal and family triumph over Amanda's struggle with bullying and its lasting conse quences. She will take audiences on a powerful journey of fear and victory as she recounts the painful process of helping her daughter stop the bullying and overcome its agonizing and traumatic effects.

Presentation: Bullying is not a game

Locations:
Wednesday, Oct. 10, 7 - 9 p.m., Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School, St. Catharines;

Wednesday, Oct. 17, 7 - 9 p.m. at Grimsby Secondary School, Grimsby;

Thursday, Nov. 22, 7 - 9 p.m. at Laura Secord Secondary School, St. Catharines

Register online:
www.nobully.ca
or call 905-641-2929 X 54104.

Professionals in the community who help youth and parents dealing with the effects of bullying will be present to describe services available.

More info is available from the Education Foundation of Niagara.

MAYOR'S GALA RAISES $25,000

WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff

Deborah-Marie Forrester of Darla-Prana Healing and Wellness Centre, Mayor Dave Augustyn and Mike Mees, Niagara Region general manager of Enbridge Gas Distribution present a cheque for $25,000 to Mel Groom of the Niagara Community Foundation. Contributions from the fourth annual Mayor's Gala, supported by the two sponsors, is enough to begin the Pelham Community Fund administered by the foundation.

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BOOK SIGNING AT PELHAM LIBRARY

WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

Sylvia Tyson, Canadian singer and songwriter turned novelist, left, signs a copy of her book, Joyner's Dream, for Gayle Baltjes-Chataway at the Pelham Public Library Tuesday. She read, sang and played the violin during her presentation. It is part of the Heart of Niagara Reading Series. The library reading sold out for Tyson.

pelhambriefs

BACK IN COURT

WELLAND — The case of the 70-year-old Fenwick woman accused of defrauding an unanmed Welland business out of $150,000 will return to a Welland courtroom this month.

Gail Bird's case was before the court Sept. 26 and adjourned to Oct. 24 at 9 a.m. to set a date for trial.

Bird is charged with two counts of fraud over $5,000, personation, uttering forged documents, unauthorized use of a credit card, mischief to data and misappropriation of money.

Niagara Regional Police, who are not identifying the business, allege the former employee fraudulently obtained money over a five-year period beginning in 2005.

TICKETS ON SALE

WELLAND – Tickets are now on sale for the fifth anniversary Pink Ribbon dinner and fashion show on Oct. 19 at Ukrainian Cultural Centre, Welland.

Doors open 5 p.m., dinner 6:30 p.m.

Tickets are $40. Contact Angele, 905-714-7005, or e-mail garant@cogeco.ca.

EUCHRE AT RAPELJE

WELLAND – Tickets are on sale for euchre night at Rapelje Lodge, Plymouth Rd., Oct. 20, starting at 7 p.m.

Tickets $7 each, luncheon included. Cash prizes, door prizes, draws and more. Limit 100 tickets only.

Call 905-980-6171 ext 1-4213 to reserve tickets or pick tickets up at the town square in the Lodge.

■ **UNITED WAY:** Trio matches $1,000 donations

WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

Rick and Mel Groom, left, co-chairs of the United Way South Niagara's 2012 Leadership Challenge, thank Frank Adamson, owner of KwikFit in Pelham, and Dolorese Bujold Wright, owner of Bujold Colborn and president of the Welland Downtown BIA, for being the first to donate $1,000 each. It will be matched by Peter Papp, right, along with Rick Lowes and Terry Duffy in the Three Amigos Leadership Giving Challenge increasing each donation to $2,000.

First two take up leadership challenge

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

PELHAM – Frank Adamson and Dolores Bujold Wright doubled their Niagara South United Way contributions.

They accepted the Leadership Giving Challenge by donating $1,000 each with will be matched by the Three Amigos - Peter Papp, Rick Lowes and Terry Duff. It increases each donation to $2000.

Mel and Rick Groom of Pelham are co-chairs of the challenge which has proved successful in other United Way campaigns including St. Catharines.

Taking the challenge is a way to invest in your community, they said.

Adamson, who owns Kwik Fit in Fonthill, is a former United Way campaign chair and one time executive director in Cambridge.

He said he is well aware of community needs met by the United Way.

Bujold Wright, owner of Bujold Colborn and president of the Welland Downtown BIA, said many of her employee benefits clients use programs supported by the United Way.

The Three Amigos match is for individual rather than corporate donations.

Every new Leadership gift of $1,000 or more, and any increase over 10% of existing leadership gifts, will be matched by the challenge grant up to $15,000.

Papp, a retired United Way executive director, said such leadership challenges have worked well in other places.

With a decline in local manufacturing and other jobs, the United Way has had to shift fundraising strategies beyond payroll deductions, he said.

It's current campaign goal is $600,000.

wayne.campbell@sunmedia.ca

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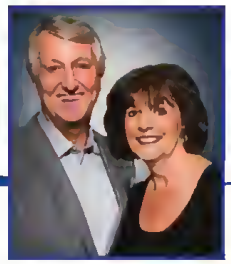

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■ **ANNIVERSARY:** Fonthill church 150 years old

Trinity Anglican trusts in the future

PehamNEWS Staff

PELHAM – Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Fonthill will mark its 150th anniversary on Sunday, Oct. 14, with a visit by the bishop of Niagara Diocese.

The Right Reverend Michael Bird will hear an original hymn and anthem of thanksgiving, said Reverend Canon David Browning, Rector of Holy Trinity.

The anniversary celebrates the opening of the church building on Pelham St. in 1862.

The parish actually began worship in 1859 with services held in other people's buildings.

"On one occasion, when they gathered in the local Baptist Church, Fonthill had its biggest thunder and lightning storm of the year," said Browning. "Anglicans needed their own building."

Supplied photo
Holy Trinity Church, Fonthill, 1915-16

The decision to build was an act of faith.

It was in 1862, the 50th anniversary of the War of 1812. To the south the United States was engaged in the Civil War.

"The Union army was large and battle-hardened. Might it swing north and settle old scores?" said Browning. "Nevertheless, Anglicans trusted God and embraced hope for the future."

During the First World War, while mourning high casualties from the local community, Anglicans built a bigger building for worship and outreach.

By 1959, the "God is dead" began but in Fonthill "the trust in God and hope for the future of earlier generations prevailed."

The 1915 building was enlarged to accommodate outreach ministries such as scouts, guides, church school and Anglican Church Women ministries.

These outreach ministries grew and spread leading to an enlargement of the building in 1994. The $550,000 cost was paid in 16 months.

"The church is more than buildings and serving parishioners preferences," said Browning.

"Experience has taught us: Churches define themselves by how they focus on Christ, and then reach out to others."

HOLY TRINITY REACHES OUT TO:

- Pelham Cares (founded by parishioners)
- Pelham Business Association (Holy Trinity is the only church member)
- Pelham Seniors, seniors rental residence.
- Town Square Manor, seniors life-lease residence in partnership with Baptist and United Churches.
- El Salvador, with Presbyterian Church in Dunnville serve people in small rural villages to build schools, teach health and provide aid.
- Children's ministries, church school, youth groups, scouts and guides,
- Service organizations, AA and Al-anon, Pakinson's therapy, Peninsula Orchestra, high school jazz band.
- Websites: www.niagara.anglican.ca; www.searchingforjesus.ca; www.holytrinityfonthill.org.

■pelhambriefs

POSTER CONTEST TO SHOW PELHAM CARES

PELHAM — Pelham Cares is hosting a poster contest in celebration of its 30th anniversary.

The agency is asking young artists to submit hand-drawn pictures to be used on new Pelham Cares posters and promotional materials. Winners will also be featured in a local newspaper.

Pictures should relate to Pelham Cares services in some way. For instance, a drawing could portray a child participating in a recreational activity, a senior being driven to the doctor, or a family receiving food donations.

Pictures should be drawn in colour on a standard letter-sized piece of white paper. Entries must include the child's name, age, grade and school.

There will be two categories: junior kindergarten to Grade 4 and Grade 5 to Grade 8.

The contest runs from Monday, Oct. 1 to Friday, Nov. 16.

For more information, call Sue Kicul at 905-892-2847 or Pelham Cares at 905-892-5300.

■ **SCHOOL:** Fundraiser now tied to Rankin Run

Crossley walks over cancer for 9th year

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

PELHAM – Tina Nori has had a stressful two years.

The stress continued Thursday when she faced bleachers full of her fellow E.L. Crossley students.

She told them about dealing with and overcoming thyroid cancer pointing to a scar on her neck.

"Receiving treatment as Sick Kids was one of the scariest things," she said.

"I saw all these little kids who were suffering."

The experience made her "paranoid, I worried about the slightest change in the how I was feeling."

Her description of finding, fearing and overcoming the cancer drew a noisy ovation that echoed through the gym.

"It was the first time I've done this," she said afterward wearing the orange T-shirt of a cancer survivor.

Nori, a Grade 12 student, spurred students at the beginning of their 9th annual cancer run.

"Way to go, Crossley, you're awesome."

For the second year, Crossley's student council decided to connect with The Niagara's Rankin Cancer Run, shifting from the traditional Terry Fox run.

Money raised in the Rankin Run, held in St. Catharines during May, stays in Niagara for research and treatment of cancer patients.

In 2012, the seventh annual run had 10,007 participants, said run volunteer Mary Ann Edwards. It raised $725,000, which it gave to programs from Fort Erie to Grimsby.

Over the seven years, it has raised $3.23 million. Next run is May 23, 2013 from Grantham Lions Club.

Crossley students, who walk and run over a five kilometre loop along Canboro Rd. and connecting roads behind the school, have raised $100,000 over the nine years.

"We don't have a final total for this year," said principal Ed Goerzen.

Cancer, he said, is something everyone is familiar with.

"We all know someone affected by it," he told the students.

The E.L. Crossley marching band's drum line lead out walkers and cross-country runners.

wayne.campbell@sunmedia.ca

WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

Cancer survivor and E.L. Crossley student Tina Nori, centre, encouraged fellow students by telling her story at an assembly before the Rankin Walk for Cancer Thursday. With her are E.L. Crossley deputy prime minister Courtney Bennett and teacher student council advisor Susan Santesso. The student council organized the cancer walk for the 9th year along rural roads near the school.

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CFUW EXECUTIVE

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Canadian Federation of University Women Welland and District 2012-13 executive members are: Carol Harding (back left) Nancy Gallacher, Pat Anderson, Margaret Kleinsmith, Diane McPherson, Angie Mannella-Pisani, Ann Wilson, Marnie Swayze, Helen Forrest, Donna Nielson, Annalisa Botticin, Jill Jackson, (seated left) and Club President Brenda Strath. Absent from photo - Gwenn Alves and Carol Semaise.

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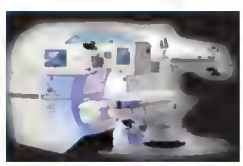

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RINGWORM

Ringworm is a common name for fungal skin infections. These types of infections are also referred to as tinea. They affect approximately 10% to 20% of the population. Ringworm appears as rings or round red patches with clear centers and red, scaly borders. Tinea can affect the scalp, nails, or skin.

Management for superficial fungal infections involves some simple non-drug methods, and over-the-counter remedies in the form of sprays lotions and creams. Affected individuals should try to reduce moisture in the affected area. Loose-fitted clothing made of cotton or material that absorbs moisture should be worn. The skin should be dried completely before covering with clothing. If the infection involves the feet, flip flops should be worn with bare feet to prevent spread to others and reinfection.

There are also many topical antifungal agents available. Examples include Canesten cream (clotrimazole), Nizoral shampoo (ketoconazole), and Monistat-Derm (miconazole), to name a few. Creams and solutions are useful because they can be rubbed into the area. Solutions work in hairy areas because they are easier to apply. Powders can serve as useful additions to creams and solutions. They are helpful when the infection is wet or oozing, or where a drying agent is needed. When applying the antifungal product it should be applied to the lesion as well as one to two inches around the lesion. The antifungal should also be used for one to two weeks after lesions clear to reduce the rate of recurrence.

Patients who have diabetes, or those who are immunosuppressed may need prescription oral therapy. It is best for your doctor to assess theses fungal infections. Fungal infections of the nail are also resistant to over-the-counter treatment.

There are some home remedies for treating nail fungus. Patients have tried applying Vics VapoRub and tea tree oil. There is not a lot of evidence to suggest the efficacy of these products for this condition, however some people may wish to try them before resorting to an oral medication.

If you think you may be affected by a fungal infection there are a number of treatment options available. Most issues can be resolved with some persistence and the proper product. Please speak to your pharmacist about what option is best for you.

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■ **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:** 2011 successes highlighted

Humane society now in 'comfortable position'

VICTORIA GRAY
PelhamNEWS Staff

WELLAND — Welland and District Humane Society's community outreach programs have thrived this year and staff have high hopes that will continue.

"We think (the shelter is) going in a very positive direction this year," executive director John Greer said in a phone interview before the humane society board of directors' annual general meeting Tuesday night.

"We're up to four community events and doing adopt-a-thons that are very, very successful," he said.

In the community room at the Lincoln St. police station, Greer gave a recap of the year's affairs, including mention of Ontario's largest reptile removal that happened in October 2011, after Seaway Serpentarium owner Karel Fortyn died suddenly leaving more than 200 reptiles and two crocodiles behind.

Greer also talked about the success the cat adoption centre in at Seaway Mall has seen since it opened in April.

"We've just adopted out our 200th cat and it's been a great way to reach the community," he said.

The centre also held an adopt-a-thon last weekend in Niagara Falls, where 18 dogs and four cats found new homes.

"I think there has been a lot of positive changes at the shelter. We're getting more community-oriented and we want to maintain that way," he said.

The board Tuesday appointed Trina Rubino and Chrishon Gambarotto directors. The pair have served unofficially for the past five months.

Humane society manager Ted Bettle presented the shelter's year-end financial statement. He said in a phone interview before the meeting the shelter isn't making money, but is able to pay its bills and even put some money back into the Provincial St. facility.

"We're in a comfortable position," Bettle said. "We're not owing so much money that we're fearful we won't be here next year, and I would say six years ago that was the case."

victoria.gray@sunmedia.ca
Twitter: @VixeyG

In The NEWS

Rich Merlino – LPCC General Manager, Jane Gilmour – Pelham Cares Chair, Sandra Warden – Pelham Cares Treasurer.

On Saturday, September 22nd the Members of Lookout Point Country Club celebrated the Club's 90th Anniversary with a fun day of golf and a BBQ dinner with local band LP3 as the entertainment.

LPCC celebrated throughout the season with 90 days of deals. A membership drive to the general public, daily deals/promotions in the Golf Shop and Food & Beverage outlets, a target 90th logo cut into the first fairway for weekly prizas, 90th Anniversary logowear and collateral waa evidant throughout tha Club. From Septembsr 4th right up to ths 90th party, a Silent Auction was held in the main lobby. The generosity of locsl Compsnies & Individusls provided s wide vsriety of products snd services to bid on.
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Location: Royal Canadian Legion
141 Hwy 20 East in Fonthill

Come out and meet individuals from various service agencies & businesses at their displays. See what is available in our community for seniors. The first 50 people will receive a free tote bag.

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■ BOOKS, CLASSES, SPEAKERS AND MORE

Lots to keep you busy at Pelham's public libraries

Upcoming events and activities offered by Pelham library:

Everything you Ever Wanted to Know about Divorce and More

If you have wondered: What to do with the family home? How divorce can leave you asset rich and cash poor? The importance of having good credit. Listen to three experts share their knowledge to help you through this troubling time. Free with a donation of a non-perishable food item or monetary donation to Pelham Cares. Tues., Oct, 9 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Sock-mania Knitting Class Hits Fenwick

Do you knit but have never tried making socks? This class is for you. Learn basic sock construction from the cuff down. Elaine Anderson, sock addict, will take you through the steps to create a mini sock. Thurs., Oct. 4 – Nov. 8. 10 - 11:30 a.m. at Maple Acre Branch. Register ahead in person. $60. Knitting experience is required.

Fire Prevention "Have 2 Ways Out"

This fun family event is designed to have all ages participate in fire prevention. Raffles, movie, demonstration by the extrication team, extinguisher training, scavenger hunt, contests and more. The Pelham Fire Department will be on hand to answer all of your fire safety questions. The Fire Prevention Week theme for this year is "Have 2 Ways Out." Friday, Oct. 12 at 6 p.m. Free. Please register ahead.

What's Cooking @ the Library?

Mel and Jessica, our own Pelham Library gourmets introduce some of our latest cookbooks at the library. Taste test some of the recipes. Thurs. Oct, 11 at 7 p.m. Maple Acre Branch, $3. Please register ahead.

Fire Truck Visit

Join local firefighters for a talk on Fire Safety complete with a story and a REAL fire truck. Everyone welcome – REGISTRATION REQUIRED. Fonthill Branch. Thurs., Oct. 11 at 1 p.m. FREE.

Introduction to Windows 7 Part 2

This hands-on session will pick up where our introductory session left off as we further explore Windows 7 in more detail. A laptop computer will be provided. Sat. Oct. 13 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. $5. Please register ahead in person.

Meditation Morning

Marcia leads you through a number of types of meditations for stress relief and focus. Great for beginners and those who have meditated before. Please bring a pen and notebook with you. Oct. 13 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Cost is $3. Please register ahead.

Clothing Sale

Donations of gently-used clothing now being accepted for our new fall fundraiser. Build up your new wardrobe inexpensively with our preloved clothing and accessories. Opens Mon., Oct. 15 at 5:00 and continues during open hours until Sat. at 5 p.m.

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AROUND TOWN

SATURDAY, OCT. 20

PELHAM HIGH REUNION The 7th Pelham (District) High School Reunion will be held on from 1 p.m.- 5 p.m. at Sparrow Lakes Golf Club, 105 Pelham Street, Welland. Registration is $10. at the door. For more info e-mail pelhamhighreunion7@gmail.com or call 905-892-7090.

ONGOING

TUESDAY NIGHT BINGO St. Ann's Parish, 834 Canboro Rd., Fenwick, 7 p.m. Continues every Tuesday to the end of June. Wheelchair accessible. Chance to win $100. 905-892-6123.

ST. ALEXANDER PASTA NIGHT first Thursday of every month at St. Alexander Church, Town Square, Fonthill. Admission: $9 for adults, $4 for children age four to 12 and children under three free. All you can eat red and white sauce penne, meatballs, sausage, garlic bread, salads and more. Catered by Antipasto's.

FENWICK LIONS FISH FRY every second Friday at Fenwick's Centennial park from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Large two-piece dish of haddock and fires $10, one piece $8. For cole slaw add $1. This 15-Friday season runs from April to October fish fry dates are: Oct. 5 and Oct . 19.

PELHAM FARMERS MARKET runs each Thursday evening market from 4:30 p.m. to dusk in the parking lot of the Pelham Municipal Building in Fonthill. The weekly sale of local produce, flowers and agricultural products continues weekly until Oct. 25.

FONTHILL LEGION LUNCH each Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Royal Canadian Legion Branch 613 hall on Regional Rd. 20 east of downtown Fonthill. $9 with takeout available. Main dish plus dessert, tea and coffee.

ART CLASSES WITH BEVERLY SNEATH Adult Classes Acrylics Monday afternoons from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. starting Sept. 10. and Watercolour 6 p.m to 8:30 p.m. at the Studio 1341 Effingham St., Ridgeville Watercolour Tuesday afternoons from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Niagara Central Hobbies 395 St. Paul St., St. Catharines Call 905-892-5868 bevsneath@yahoo.ca www.beverlysneath.com

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY of Niagara Region Support Groups for Caregivers meets the first Tuesday of each month, except July and August, 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Rapelje Lodge, 277 Plymouth Rd., Welland. For info call 905-67-3914.

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY of Niagara Region Support Groups for Caregivers meets the third Monday of each month, except July and August, 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Alzheimer Society, 403 Ontario St. Unit 1, St. Catharines. For info call 905-687-3914.

CHORUS NIAGARA The Power of 100. Artistic Director Robert Cooper invites singers to audition for Niagara's premier 100 voice community choir. Call Pam at 905-357-1616 for an audition appointment. Further information www.chorusniagara.ca

ST. CATHARINES NEWCOMERS Club invites women of all ages new to the Niagara area to join us on the first Wednesday of the month, at the Heideh of, 600 Lake St, St. Catharines at 7.30 p.m. Call Lois at 905-988-9988 or Gwen 905-641-9816.

A CAPPELLA NIAGARA MEN'S CHORUS Invites singers for fun, fellowship, and fabulous 4-part harmony every Tuesday at 7:30 PM at St.John Ambulance, 5734 Glenholme Ave. at High St. in Niagara Falls. For info call Bob—892-2336. Come and sing with us. You'll be glad you did!

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Around Town is a coming events service for non-profit groups in Pelham. Please make submissions by e-mail to wayne.campbell@sunmedia.ca or by fax to 905-732-3660.

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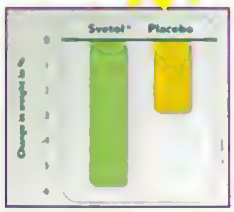

WHAT IS SVETOL®?

Svetol® is a form of Green Coffee Bean extract that features a unique process that extracts the most potent chlorogenic acids thought to promote healthy weight loss. It's the Sevetol®s proprietary ratio of the key chlorogenic acids that are responsible for Svetol®s clinically-studied weight loss success.

The years of science behind this incredible, all-natural ingredient are evident in the results. One recent study on Svetol® revealed that participants who took 400 mg of Svetol® per day increased their lean mass to fat mass ratio by over 4 percent and lost nearly 6 percent of their body weight!

Additional studies have also shown that Svetol® can support healthy blood sugar levels, which is the mechanism of action that is thought to promote weight loss. Svetol® works by slowing the release of glucose into the blood stream, which curbs excess glucose (blood sugar) in the blood stream that will turn to fat. Also, without excess glucose in the blood stream for your body to burn for energy, your body turns to stored fat to use as fuel.

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